MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) Such an enquiry is unnecessary as the present jurisdiction of Section Officers is by no means fixed. It is extended or reduced, as occasion demands.

Defalcations by the Proverthikars of the dues to the Terur Kulam Irrigation Block Board.

240. **MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI** (*Agastisvaram*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether in the letters of the President of the Terur Kulam Irrigation Block Board addressed –

(1) to the Chief Secretary to Government, (No. 24, dated the 8th September 1925),

(2) to the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner, (No. 21, dated the 24th July 1925),

(3) to the Dewan Peishkar, Trivandrum Division, (No. 22, dated the 24th July 1925), and

(4) to the Tahsildar, Agastisvaram taluk, (No. 12, dated the 27th Dhanu 1100),

he had complained that a considerable amount of arrears of the Block Board dues collected by the *Proverthikars* concerned is being retained by them in their own hands?

(*b*) If so, will they be pleased to state whether they or any of their subordinates in the Revenue Department made any enquiry regarding these allegations, and, if so, what is the result of such enquiry?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Beyond a general allegation, no specific instances have been cited to admit of action being taken against the persons at fault. Strict instructions have been issued to the *Proverthikars* to retain no collections but to hand them over to the Boards as soon as made.

(*b*) No enquiry is possible in view of the vagueness of the allegations and the absence of specific instances.

Collection of dues for 1101 to the Suchindram Irrigation Block Board.

241. **MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI** (*Agastisvaram*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the current year's Block Board dues to the Suchindram Irrigation Block Board are being collected by the *Proverthikars* concerned and, if so, who authorised them to collect such dues when the Rules framed under Section 32 of the Irrigation Regulation, III of 1072, as amended by Regulations I of 1090 and V of 1097 authorise the revenue authorities to collect only arrears of such cess?

(*b*) If the action of the Tahsildar of Agastisvaram was right, will they be pleased to state:

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. Subrahmanya Pillai.]

(i) whether the Tahsildar has been duly authorised by the Government to do the same;

(ii) whether the Rules referred to have been amended accordingly; and

(iii) if he was wrong, who was responsible for such action?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No such collections have been reported. Lists have been received from the President of the Block Board and have been sent to the *Proverthikar* for future action on receipt of orders.

(*b*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Conversion of the Pallikkal-Punnamedu Road into a cart road.

242. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the conversion of the village road from Pallikkal on the Kayankulam-Adur Road to Punnamedu, south of Mavelikara town, into a cart road was sanctioned by the Government some years ago?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the road has not yet been made fit for cart traffic and that the people of the localities concerned have been complaining to the authorities about the delay in carrying out the work?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to have the work finished soon through local agencies, if practicable?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The road has not been made fit for cart traffic. No complaints from the people of the localities have been reported to the Government.

(*c*) The work is not very urgent.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): In view of the fact that part of the work has already been done by the people, will the Government be pleased to finish the rest of the work of that road?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the people will find it possible to gravel the whole length of the road, the question as to what further Governnent would do in the matter will be considered.

Delay in answering Interpellations.

243. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the Government be pleased to state who is responsible for the delay in answering interpellations asked at the meetings of the Legislative Council?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly